



OAS PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Olympic Archery in Schools (“OAS”) was established by the Easton Sports Development Foundation (ESDF) in order to give schools the opportunity to have archery programs and a school archery team. Students gain personal benefits from learning recurve archery as well as from participating on a school team. The OAS program provides unique opportunities for youth by raising the awareness of Olympic-style archery and the Olympic movement. By offering an organized archery league where schools are assigned to different divisions within their conference and have the opportunity to compete with other schools, OAS also builds pathways to next step programs such as Junior Olympic Archery Development (JOAD), advanced competition and collegiate programs.

OAS educates archers, conference leaders, and instructors in safe practices and the fundamentals of archery based on the National Training System which is used by the National Archery Association (aka USA Archery), the governing body of the sport of archery.

I. SCHOOL GUIDELINES.

Although there are many elements essential for the operation of a successful OAS Program, the primary elements that a participating school (School) agrees to follow are:

- a) **School Eligibility** - The School must be either a middle school or a high school with a minimum enrollment of 100 students. It can be a public or private school, and if a private school, it must have 501(c)(3) designation in order to participate in the OAS Program.
- b) **League Requirements** – To join an OAS League Conference:
 - The School must be located within a 35 mile radius of an existing OAS Division within that Conference.
 - The School must be able to travel to the other schools within its Division for away games during the league season. Travel may also be needed for Conference, State and National Championships. The School is responsible for transportation to away games and championship events as needed.
 - In addition to the School's own activity participation waiver, the School is also responsible for making sure that all OAS participants fill out an event waiver for Conference, State and National Championship events.
 - The School must pay the annual League Membership Fee as shown on the annual application (an additional late fee will be required if the membership fee is submitted after the deadline established by ESDF). The League Fee does not include entry fees to Conference, State or National Championships. The Fee is due upon execution of the Olympic Archery in Schools Program Agreement, and is payable to the Easton Sports Development Foundation, 15026 Oxnard Street, Van Nuys, CA 91411.
- c) **Instructors and Instructors' Education** - The success of the OAS program relies on the expertise of certified instructors. Instructor certification is based on the teachings and practices of the USA Archery Level 1 Archery Instructor Certification Course. This Course provides its graduates (Instructors) with the necessary tools to maintain a high level of safety both on and

off the archery range and ensures that minimum standards for archery instruction are consistently taught in order to provide for the safety and enjoyment of the participants, instructors and spectators. The School will select one or more teachers or other credentialed staff who will be trained and certified to be an Instructor(s) under the OAS Archery Program. The School may also designate a volunteer (or volunteers) to become an Instructor; provided, however, that the School has conducted a background check on each volunteer and certifies to the ESDF that the volunteer has passed the background check to meet ESDF's then-current policies with regard to working with children.

- A minimum of one OAS-certified Instructor must be present at all OAS school practices and events. OAS Instructors are never to be alone with a student.
 - To become certified, the Instructor must complete the Instructors' Education course through the use of the OAS online training, as well as an 8-hour in-person National Archery Association/USA Archery course. Instructors must have passed the archery course test in order to become certified through the program. The designated Instructor(s) for the School must be willing and able to travel to the designated location for the training.
 - Renew the Instructors' education course every 3 years as required by USA Archery.
 - All Instructors for the School must agree to adhere to the OAS/USAA curriculum and practices, and follow National Archery Association Range Safety procedures and rules. They must also be familiar with and agree to follow the OAS League Handbook, including rules and competition format.
 - Instructors must follow the OAS Program Guidelines. Breach of Program Guidelines may require additional training or may result in dismissal or other action by the schools.
 - Instructors (at least one Instructor per team) are required to attend a pre-season workshop each year that the School participates in the OAS Program. Dates and times are available through the Conference Leadership of each School's Division.
 - The School assumes full responsibility for the actions of the Instructor(s) and will ensure that the Instructor(s) meet the Instructor Expectations as outlined in these Program Guidelines.
 - If for any reason the School's Instructor leaves the OAS Program, the School will have 60 days to find a new Instructor. New archery instructors must be certified through the OAS/USAA instructor course.
- d) **Background Checks** - The School must perform background checks on all staff instructors and volunteer instructors in accordance with ESDF's then-current policies.
- e) **Training and Competition Facilities** - OAS is a program dependent on having a safe and secure location to set up an archery range for both practices and competition. The School agrees to provide sufficient space as follows:
- Middle schools need a 9 meter range.
 - High Schools need an 18 meter range.
 - Indoor ranges require the ability to hang an arrow curtain behind the targets.
 - Outdoor ranges require a 50 meter safety zone or large hill behind the targets, as well as 15 meter safety zones on the sides of the range.
 - Should the school choose to practice at an off-campus site, this location must meet OAS safety guidelines.
 - Schools can find safety range set-up by referring back to the USA Archery Level 1 course booklet Chapter 1: Range Set Up and Safety.

- The School should have a dry, secure location to store archery equipment. Should the school store their equipment at an off-campus site, the location must meet these same storage requirements.
 - Proposed range and storage spaces may be inspected by an OAS agent before acceptance into the program. Pictures of both the range and storage must be submitted along with the OAS Application.
- f) **Archery Equipment** - The School must provide archery equipment that complies with the OAS League Rules, which can be found in the OAS League Handbook.

ABSOLUTELY NO DAMAGED EQUIPMENT MAY BE USED IN THE OAS PROGRAM REGARDLESS OF WHO OWNS THE EQUIPMENT. If any equipment is found to be damaged or showing signs of breakage, it must be removed immediately. Some equipment can be repaired or replaced by the instructor, such as arrow rests, bow strings, sights,nock points, nocks, and fletching.

Prior to the start of any archery activity, the students and the instructor must check arrows for any signs of damage.

Students participating in the OAS program must be able to understand the safety procedures and handle the archery equipment as instructed by their Instructor(s) or as outlined in the OAS League Handbook.

II. INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS

Following training and certification, each Instructor will be asked to sign an acknowledgement of the expectations that ESDF has for them as they further the mission of OAS. The Instructors are asked to agree to uphold the ESDF values of:

- **The pursuit of excellence** both in the sport and in life;
- **Personal growth** from participating in archery;
- **Sportsmanship** both on and off the range;
- **Opportunities** for both new and experienced archers;
- **Focus on form** over the score;
- **Community** on many levels including teams, family supporters, Instructors, and OAS as a whole; and
- **Pathways** to lifelong enjoyment of the sport.

The Instructors are also expected to:

- Serve the athletes first;
- Teach character both directly and by example;
- Share in the core values and vision/mission of OAS;
- Always use safe teaching methods as prescribed by OAS;
- Follow all OAS Program Guidelines;
- Follow the rules and guidelines of the OAS League Handbook; and
- Be ambassadors of archery and the OAS program to our local communities and families.